

**Regular Session Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting  
Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Town Hall  
Monday August 17, 2015, 7:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Mark Siegenthaler, Chair, William S. Moonan, Margot R. Fleischman, Caroline Fedele, Michael A. Rosenberg, and Town Manager Richard T. Reed

**ALSO PRESENT:** Public Works Director Roy Sorenson; Ben Thomas Finance Committee; Historic Society member Don Corey, Historical Museum Study member Angelo Colao, Historical Society Chair Frank Gicca; Town Engineer Adrienne St. John; Finance Director Victor Garofalo; Mary McBride and Joan Bowen, Press Representative; Ken Hill, Bedford TV.

---

**Chair Siegenthaler called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.**

**16-34            Agreement Approval  
                  Communications Tower Design  
                  Bergman and Associates – Haverhill, MA**

Public Works Director Roy Sorenson presented the Selectmen with a contract between the Town and Bergman and Associates for the Communications Tower project. Mr. Sorenson reminded the Selectmen that the Communications Tower is currently located on top of a water tower and needs to be moved. Mr. Sorenson stated that this project will pose some challenges mainly in getting Town equipment off of the water tower and subsequently moving it to the new location.

The Town was waiting for a decision from the FAA as to the height of the tower. The FAA approved a height of 168’ which is approximately 50’ higher than the existing water tank but approximately 50’ lower than what was originally proposed. Mr. Sorenson concluded by saying that Bergman and Associates would be assisting the Town with RFP’s going forward. The project should be completed by July of 2016.

**Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve an agreement with Bergman and Associates for Engineering Services for the Communications Tower Project in the amount of \$63,150. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**16-35            Middlesex Turnpike Phase III Design  
                  Chapter 90 Project Approval  
                  Agreement Amendment – Engineering Services  
                  Vanasse Hagen Brustlin, Inc. – Watertown, MA**

Town Engineer Adrienne St. John discussed an agreement amendment between the Town and Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) regarding the Middlesex Turnpike Phase III design project. The project is at the 100% design stage and the proposed amendment is to address comments the Mass DOT and Federal Highway Association (FHWA) made during its final review. Both agencies would like to see additional information regarding wetland mitigation, soil borings/evaluation and supplemental traffic analysis. Billerica and Bedford have been asked by the FHWA to evaluate the merits of a traffic roundabout versus signalization at the intersections of Oak Park Drive, Albion Road and 900 Middlesex Turnpike. Ms. St. John stated that the fee for this contract is \$179,000 to be split between Bedford and Billerica in proportion to the specific tasks. Bedford would be responsible for \$67,100 which is eligible for Chapter 90 funding from Mass DOT.

**Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the amendment for professional services from VHB in the amount of \$67,100 and that the request be forwarded to Mass DOT to approve funding from Chapter 90 account. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

#### **16-36          Revised FEMA Floodplain Maps for Shawsheen River Watershed**

Ms. St. John explained to the Selectmen that in 2010, FEMA re-mapped the Town but did not use fieldwork or modelling. Two years ago, FEMA re-mapped the flood elevations along the Shawsheen River which showed a significant rise in flood elevations. The Town would like to send a letter to the affected residents explaining FEMA's findings and its impact. Ms. St. John stated that the Public Works Department would like to have the FEMA findings presented at Annual Town Meeting in March to be recorded for the Town's flood plans.

Mr. Rosenberg asked how many residences were added and/or subtracted since these new findings. Ms. St. John stated that one resident had been added since the new re-mapping.

Chair Siegenthaler will sign the letter to be presented to the affected residents informing them of the new flood limits.

#### **16-37          Establishment of Trails Committee Charge**

Ms. St. John stated that the Trails Committee was formed approximately 12 years ago as a sub-committee of the Conservation Committee. Upon a recent review by the Volunteer Coordinating Committee, it was determined that the Trails Committee should be a stand-alone committee complete with its own charge. The new charge establishes that the Trails Committee be made up of 7 at-large members rather than requiring dual membership with the Bicycle and Recreation Committees.

Ms. Fedele noted that the phrase “preserving the sustainability of the Town’s extensive trail network,” should be moved from the Membership section to the Purpose section.

Mr. Moonan inquired whose budget would be funding the Trails Committee. Ms. St. John said it would be included in the Capital Budget.

Chair Siegenthaler suggested the last sentence in the Membership section explaining how interested residents get involved in the Committee be omitted.

**Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to adopt the Bedford Trail Committee Charge as amended. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**16-39 Registrar of Voters Appointment  
Republican Registrar**

**Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to re-appoint James W. Martin as the Republican Registrar for a term ending June 30, 2018. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**16-41 Minutes  
Regular Session Minutes – August 3, 2015**

**Ms. Fleischman made a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes of August 3, 2015 as amended. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 4-0-1. Mr. Moonan abstained.**

**16-38 Presentation  
Ad hoc Historical Museum Study Committee Final Report**

Mr. Moonan updated the Selectmen on the ad hoc Historical Museum Study Committee’s Final Report. Mr. Moonan noted that in December 2013, the Historic Society expressed interest in having a Town Museum that would display the many artifacts depicting Bedford’s rich history which spans well over a century. In August 2014 an eight member committee consisting of seven voting and one non-voting member, was formed to discuss how to bring this idea to fruition.

Mr. Moonan stated that the Committee has explored a variety of potentially desirable sites for the Museum which includes 12 privately-owned locations and 9 public sites. The Committee would like to see the Museum located in an area that is accessible to both pedestrians and cars with parking being a concern.

Mr. Moonan concluded by suggesting putting an article on the November Special Town Meeting Warrant to hire a consultant to look at the viable sites.

Historical Society Chair Frank Gicca addressed the Selectmen. As a member of the Museum Study Committee, Mr. Gicca noted that he has visited a lot of Town Museums

in and around Massachusetts. Mr. Gicca said that the ones that seem to thrive are those that also have social functions held at the museums. It is Mr. Gicca's hope that when Bedford's Town Museum is established, it will open its doors to social functions as well.

Historic Society member Don Corey informed the Selectmen that Community Preservation is aware of the Museum Study findings and has earmarked funds in their budget to assist in looking at multiple sites for the Museum. Mr. Corey noted that Community Preservation had funds set aside from a few years ago for Depot Park.

Historical Museum Study Committee member Angelo Colao voiced his concern to the Selectmen about the future placement of historic artifacts. Mr. Colao stated that some locations might not be conducive to preserving the items due to humidity.

Both Mr. Gicca and Mr. Colao applauded Mr. Moonan's efforts with the Museum Study Committee.

After a lengthy discussion, it was suggested that this item be added to the September 8<sup>th</sup> Selectmen's Meeting agenda.

#### **16-40            Extension of Financial Articles Appropriated Prior to FY14 Approval**

Finance Director Victor Garofalo presented the Selectmen with articles that the Town and School are requesting be extended or carried forward. Mr. Garofalo noted that a vote was needed for an extension of these articles. The amount to be extended is \$322,381.95.

Mr. Moonan asked why the departments asked to put money aside for certain projects that now need to be extended.

Mr. Reed indicated that it is almost impossible to plan, design and execute a project within a fiscal year; hence the request for the extensions.

Mr. Garofalo noted that the bylaws prohibit an article being extended greater than five years.

**Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve extending the Fiscal Year 2016 Capital Articles totaling \$322,381.95. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

#### **16-42            Town Manager's Report**

Mr. Reed presented the Selectmen with a preliminary list of articles for Special Town Meeting in November. Mr. Reed noted that a draft of all articles would be done at the September 21<sup>st</sup> Selectmen's Meeting and the final approval completed at the October

5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Reed concluded by saying there was one article recently added pertaining to the Complete Streets Statute.

### **16-43          Open Discussion and Selectmen Liaison Reports**

Mr. Rosenberg informed the Selectmen that the Hanscom Field Advisory Board had a lengthy discussion about the new air charter that is flying out of Hanscom Air Force Base. It is an on demand service but is restricted by the FAA to flying only 4 days per week. Mr. Rosenberg stated that only two trips had been scheduled thus far.

Ms. Fedele said she was hoping to have Recreation Commission updates at the next Selectmen's Meeting regarding fields and Spring Brook Park.

Chair Siegenthaler attended the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) meeting the previous week. Code Enforcement Director Chris Laskey presented the ZBA with a draft memo illustrating the parameters for teardowns and how to deal with them. Chair Siegenthaler noted that the ZBA was concerned with the number of teardowns in Bedford.

**Mr. Moonan made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Collective Bargaining Strategy Related to the Bedford Public Health Nurses Professional Unit and to not return to Regular Session. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.**

**The Selectmen were polled individually: Siegenthaler, aye, Moonan, aye, Fleischman, aye, Rosenberg, aye and Fedele, aye.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.